

emperor by the pope. The pretext for his coronation was his refusal to recognize IRENE as Empress of the East. In 812 Charles ceded Venice and Dalmatia to the Byzantine emperor, MICHAEL I, who then recognized his imperial dignity. The end of Charles' reign was troubled by raids of NORSE and DANISH pirates and Charles took vigorous measures for the construction of a fleet, which his successors neglected. His land frontiers he had already protected by the creation of marches.

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742 - 814

CHARLEMAGNE

CHARLES THE GREAT - CHARLES I

800 - 814 Emperor of the West.

Frankish king (768 - 814). Elder son of PIPPIN THE SHORT and a grandson of CHARLES MARTEL, he shared with his brother CARLOMAN in the succession to his father's kingdom. At CARLOMAN's death (771), young Charles was proclaimed sole king of the Franks. When war broke out between DESIDERIUS, king of the Lombards, who had been persuaded to support the claims of CARLOMAN's two sons, and

Pope ADRIAN I, who had refused support, Charles intervened (773) on the side of the pope. At Rome he was received by ADRIAN as patrician of the Romans (a title he had received with his father in 754), and he confirmed his father's donation to the Holy See. Shortly afterward he took PAVIA and assumed the iron crown of the Lombard kings. In 778 he invaded Spain; he was repulsed by the Moors at SARAGOSSA but kept NAVARRE and the "SPANISH MARCH," including PAMPLONA & BARCELONA. Charles's struggle with the pagan SAXONS whose greatest leader was WIDKIND, lasted from 772 till 804. By dint of forced conversions, wholesale massacres, and the transportation of thousands of Saxons to the interior of the Frankish kingdom, Charles made his domination over SAXONY complete. He also waged successfully against the AVARS & the SLAVS, advancing as far east as POMERANIA. Meanwhile the new pope, LEO III, was threatened with deposition by the Romans and in 799 appealed to Charles. Charles hastened to Rome to support LEO III, and on Christmas Day, 800, was crowned

were the numerous schools for children of all classes established throughout the empire during

Charles's reign. The preservation of Classical literature was due almost entirely to his initiative. Prominent figures of the CAROLINGIAN renaissance other than ALCVIN included PAUL the DEACON, EINHARD, and PETER of PISA. Charlemagne himself, though scarcely considered educated by later standards, showed great taste for learning and store for purity in his Latin. In his daily life, he affected

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In his government he continued and systematized the administrative machinery of his predecessors. He permitted conquered peoples to retain their own laws, which he codified when possible, and he issued many CAPITULARIES (gathered in the MONUMENTA GERMANICA HISTORICA). A notable achievement was the creation of a system by which he might personally supervise his administration in even the most distant lands; his MISSI DOMINICI were personal representatives with wide powers who regularly inspected their assigned

districts. He maintained contact with the lesser magnates through annual consultative assemblies. He tried to help the poorer freemen by reducing their military obligation and by removing their obligation to attend county assemblies. He strove to educate the clergy and exercised more direct control over the appointment of bishops. Like the Byzantine emperors, he acted as arbiter in theological disputes by summoning councils, notably that at Frankfurt (794), where ADOPTIONISM was rejected and the decrees of the Second Council of Nicaea were condemned. He stimulated foreign trade and entertained friendly relations with England and with HARUN AL-RASHID. In 813 Charlemagne designated his son LOUIS I as imperial co-regent and successor and crowned him at AACHEN, thus founding the CAROLINGIAN dynasty of emperors. Charlemagne's court at AACHEN was the center of considerable intellectual quickening. The palace school, under the leadership of ALCVIN, became particularly famous, but of greater significance

(3)

the simple manners of his Frankish forbears, wore Frankish clothes, and led a frugal existence, except for his habit of keeping several wives and concubines. He was beatified after his death and in some churches has been honored as a saint. His physical appearance probably differed vastly from the bearded and patriarchal figure of the legend. Indeed, Charlemagne's actual achievements and prestige were of such magnitude that later generations

enlarged them to fantastic proportions. Surrounded by his legendary 12 peers, he became the central figure of a cycle of romance. At first legend pictured him as the champion of Christendom; later he appeared as a vacillating old man, almost a comic figure. His characterization in the CHANSON DE ROLAND has impressed itself indelibly on the imagination of the Western World. The vogue of the Charlemagne epic ebbed somewhat after the Renaissance, but was revived again in the 19th CENT., by VICTOR HUGO and other members of the Romantic school. Charlemagne's creation (or recreation) of an empire was the basis of the theory of the HOLY ROMAN EMPIRE; it was his example that NAPOLEON I had in mind when he tried to assume his successor in 1804.

At the most, the assemblies could only bring upon him the force of public opinion.

Attention has been called to Charlemagne's interest in learning. The difficulties in building up a better education were almost beyond our comprehension. There seemed no place to begin - not only the nobles, but even many of the better clergy were densely ignorant. The only tools to work with were poor.

Charlemagne did much. He secured more learned men for the clergy. He brought about the opening of schools in many of the monasteries and at the seats of some of the bishops; and he urged that these schools should not only train the clergy but that they should teach all children to read, even those of serfs.

Some of the schools established or revived at this time, as at TOURS and ORLEANS, acquired much fame. For teachers, learned men were brought from Italy, where the ~~teachers~~ Roman culture best survived.

Charlemagne also established a famous "School of the Palace" for the young nobles of the court) and the scholar ALCUIN was induced to come from England to direct it. The emperor himself,

when time permitted studied at the tasks
of the boy.

With great zeal, too, he strove to secure a true
copying of valuable manuscripts, and especially
a correction of errors that had crept into the
services of the church through careless
copying.

(3) (2)

kingdom, Charlemagne made use of the old
Teutonic assemblies in fall and spring. All
frankish could attend and speak. Sometimes, especially
when war was to be decided upon, this
"MAYFIELD" gathering comprised the bulk of
the men of the Frankish nation. At other times
it was made up only of the great nobles and
churchmen.

To these assemblies the CAPITULARIES were read;
but the assembly was not itself a legislative -
Lawmaking was in the hands of it

sors. To oppose this tendency directly in
times was hardly possible. So, to keep the counts
in order, Charlemagne introduced a new
set of officers known as *MISSI DOMINIC*
("King's messengers"). The empire was divided
into districts, each containing the governments of several
counts, and to each such district each year there was
sent a pair of these commissioners, to examine
the administration and to act, for the year, as the
king's self, — overseeing the work of local counts.

correcting injustice, holding popular assemblies,
and reporting all to the king. The commissioners
were moved from one circuit to another, year after
year, so that they should not establish too intimate
relations with one set of counts. Usually, too,
the pair of missi were made up of one layman
and one bishop, so that the two might be the
more ready to check each other.

(c) This simple worked wonderfully well in
Charlemagne's lifetime, largely because of his
own marvelous activity. Despite the terrible
conditions of the roads, and the other hardships
of travel in those times, the king was

constantly on the move, journeying from end to end of his vast dominions and attending unceasingly to its wants. No commercial traveler of to-day travels more faithfully, and none dreams of meeting such hardships.

- (d) With the help of his chief advisers, the king drew up collections of laws to suit the needs of his people. These collections are known as CAPITULARIES
- (e) MAY FIELDS. To keep in closer touch with popular feeling in all parts of the

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offices was very great. On the frontier, to watch the outside barbarians, the imperial offices were given large territories ('marks') and were known as margraves. To the counts and margraves was intrusted all ordinary business of government for their districts. They maintained order, administered justice, levied troops and in all ways represented the king to the people.

- (b) Like the old dukes, the counts tended to become identified with their localities as independent rulers, and to transmit their power

at the revenues of Charlemagne himself. . . . powerful as he was, he was always pinched for money. There were no taxes, as we understand the word, - partly because there was no money to pay them with, and little produce. Payment was made by service in person. The common freeman paid by serving in the ranks in war; the nobles paid by serving there, and with their followers, and also by serving, without salary, as officers in the administration. The treasury received some fees, and it was enriched somewhat by the "gifts" which were expected from the wealthy men of the realm; but its chief support came from the produce of the royal farms scattered through the kingdom. Charlemagne took the most minute care that these lands should be well tilled, and that each should pay him every egg and vegetable due. For the management of his estates he drew up regulations, from which we learn much about the condition of the time.

Five features of the government deserve attention, - the administration by COUNTS; the watchdog of the counts by the MISSI DOMINICI; the king's own

marvelous activity; the issuing of capitularies; and MAYFIELD S.

- (2) Under the Merovingians, large fragments of the kingdom fell under the rule of the dukes, who became almost independent sovereigns and who usually passed on their authority to their sons. PIPPIN began to replace these hereditary dukes with appointed counts, more closely dependent upon the royal will. This practice was attended by Charlemagne - Except on the frontier, no one count was given a large district; therefore the number of these

AFTER 800

SOCIETY AND GOVERNMENT

We must not think that the glory and prosperity of the old Empire had been restored. To accomplish that was to be the work of centuries more. In 800 A.D., the West was ignorant and poor. There was much barbarism in the most civilized society. Roads had fallen into neglect, and there was little communication between one district and another. Money was little used &c. Trade hardly existed. Almost the only industry was a primitive kind of agriculture.

Perhaps this condition is best realized in

idea to which he had given new up-
and new meaning was to be for ages the
inspiration of the best minds as they strove
against the forces of anarchy in behalf of
order, peace, and progress.

In his lifetime, Charlemagne restored order
to Europe. It is true he was ahead of his age;
and, after his death, his great designs in many
respects broke to pieces. It is true, too, that he
built upon the work of his father and grandfather.
But he towers above them, and above all others
men from the 5th to the 15th century, —
early the greatest figure in 1000 years.
He stands for 5 great movements. He
expanded the area of civilization, created one
great Teutonic state, revived the Roman Empire
in the West for the outward form of this
state, reorganized the church and civil
society, and brought about a revival of
learning. Looking at this work as a whole,
~~of~~ whom we may say he wrought wisely
to combine the best elements of Roman
and of Teutonic society into a new

civilization. In his Empire the various streams of influence that we have traced in Ancient History were at last fused in one great current; — and Modern History was begun.

800 - 814 CHARLEMAGNE IN HISTORY

In the early part of the eighth century there were four great forces contending for Western Europe, — the Greek Empire, the Saracens, the Franks, and the Papacy. By the year 800, the Carolingians had excluded two and had fused the other two into the revived Roman Empire.

For centuries more, this Roman Empire was to be one of the most important institutions in Europe, Barbarism and anarchy were again to break in, after the death of the great Charles; but the empire?

coronation of Charles. In later times the
was to be expressed in the name, THE HOLY ROMAN
EMPIRE. The Empire had its spiritual as well
as its temporal head. The limits of authority
between the two were not well defined, and
dissensions were afterward to arise between
them. Thus at the close of Ancient history the world
was divided among four great powers - two Christian
Empires and two rival Mohammedan Caliphates. (The
Caliph HAROUN al RASCHID at BAGDAD, the hero of the Arabian Nights
was Charlemagne's contemporary. He sent Charlemagne a white
elephant and a curious water clock that struck the hours.)

800 - 1453 - 1806 CONTRAST - WESTERN & EASTERN EMPIRES

Neither Empire was really Roman. The Eastern grew more
and more Oriental, until it ended in 1453 A.D., when the
Turks captured Constantinople. The Western grew more &
more Teutonic, until it ended in 1806, before
which time its rulers had drunk with little more
than dukes of Austria. Both Empires contrived to stand
for civilization against barbarism. The Eastern, however,
was henceforth largely PASSIVE, and calls for little
attention in European history: the ACTIVE forces for
civilization were found in the West. The Eastern Empire

warded off from Europe invasions of Asiatic barbarism, and served as a storehouse of the old culture. The Western Empire learned from the Eastern some of its civilization, and extended Christianity and good order in Central Europe.

The new Western Empire, too, while one in theory with the old Empire of Augustus and Constantine, differed from it almost as widely as from the Byzantine Empire.

(a) The new Empire was European, and even Teutonic, rather than Mediterranean, both in area and character. Charlemagne and his successors used to be crowned in Rome; but the German Shrine, not the Italian Tribe, was the real center of their state. AACHEN, not Rome, was the real capital of the government. Greek and oriental influence were almost wholly excluded; and Roman ideas, so far as they remained, were worked out by rulers of Teutonic blood.

(b) The new Empire rose out of union of the Papacy and the Frankish power. This union began in the coronation and the donation of PIPPIN, and was confirmed by the Christ

This act of Leo III and Charles was not a partition of imperial duties, as between PROCOPIUS and his colleague, nor a friendly division of territory as between Arcadius and Honorius. It was in theory the restoration of the seat of the one imperial Empire to Rome. In fact, however, it created two rival empires, each calling itself the Roman Empire, and looking on the other as a usurpation. Men of that day spoke of Charlemagne as successor not of Romulus Augustus, but of CONSTANTINE II. In course of time, men had to recognise that there were two Empires, as there had come to be two branches of the Christian Church.

800 AD.

CHARLEMAGNE - "ROMAN EMPIRE"

The state ruled by Clovis and by PIPPIN had been not so much a kingdom as an empire, in extent and character, comprising, as it did, many sub-states and diverse peoples. Charlemagne intensified this imperial character, and he ruled also over wide realms in north Italy which were not in the Frankish state at all. Now he was to strengthen his power by reviving the dignity and magic name of the Roman Empire. He knew that the mere "King of the Franks" could never

over the minds of VISIGOTHS, LOMBARD, BAVARIAN,
SAXON, and especially of the Roman population
they dwelt among, as could the "Emperor of the
Romans" ruling from the old world capital.

There was already a "Roman Emperor," of course,
at Constantinople, whose authority, in theory,
extended over all Christendom. Just at this time, however,
IRENE, the empress-mother, put out the eyes of her
son, CONSTANTINE VI, and seized the imperial
power. To most men, East and West, it seemed
monstrous that a woman should pretend to
sweep the scepter of the world, and Charles decided
to restore the throne to its ancient Capital in
the West.

On Christmas day, 800 A.D., Charlemagne was
at Rome, whither he had been called once more to
protect the pope from turbulent Italian enemies.

During the Christmas service, while the king
knelt in prayer, Pope LEO III placed upon his
head a gold crown and selected him as
CHARLES AUGUSTUS, EMPEROR OF THE ROMANS.

The act was ratified by the enthusiastic
acclaim of the multitude. Once more Rome
had chosen an IMPERATOR.

post-Christian, but they are not.

Cavlengian

Saxon

Jan. Werk-month

Wulf-month when the hungry wolves come into the villages.

Feb. Mēd-month

Sprout-kale when the cabbages sprout.

Mar. Spring-month

Easter-month of the goddess of fertility.

May Toy-month

Thronliche when cows can be milked 3 times/day

June Plough-month

Litha of arguable meaning.

July Hay-month

Maed-month mead-month when meadows are in bloom.

Aug. Harvest-month

Weed-month weed-month, or Scare-month, sheoring month.

Sept. Werd-month

Harvest-month

	<u>Celtic</u>	<u>Saxon</u>
Oct.	Vintage-month	Winterfylleth, the full moon that marks the start of winter
Nov.	Autumn-month	Bloð-month blood-month when the cattle are slaughtered.
Dec.	Holy-month	Heilige-month holy-month

800 AD

As for the month-names and day-names, they never were Christianized, except in the Eastern Church. It is odd that the twelve Apostles never gave their names to the months as the seven planetary gods did to the days.

Charlemagne in the ninth century, gave new names to the months in his French tongue. In this and in the Saxon calendar, the month-names are still seasonal. 'Easter-month' and 'Holy-month' might seem to be